



# Department of Justice

United States Attorney Gregory G. Lockhart  
Southern District of Ohio

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2006  
<http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/ohs>

CONTACT: Fred Alverson  
614-469-5715  
FAX: 614-469-5503

## **WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP OFFICIAL PLEADS GUILTY TO POSSESSION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**

DAYTON - Tom Toberen, age 51, of Centerville pled guilty in United States District Court here today to a one-count bill of information charging him with possession of child pornography.

Toberen is the Deputy Administrator for Washington Township in Montgomery County.

Gregory G. Lockhart, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Ohio and Brian M. Moskowitz, Special Agent-in-Charge of the ICE Office of Investigations in Detroit, announced the plea entered today before United States District Judge Thomas M. Rose.

In a statement of facts filed with his plea, Toberen admitted that on or about May 18, 2005, he possessed approximately 234 visual depictions of children under the age of 18 engaged in sexually explicit conduct. These visual depictions include approximately 20 still images found on the hard drive of a computer in his residence, approximately 188 still images of children under the age of 18 engaged in sexually explicit conduct found on a computer storage disk, and approximately 26 images of children under the age of 18 engaged in sexually explicit conduct found in email folders belonging to him.

Toberen admitted that he amassed his collection of child pornography by downloading images from the Internet, and by trading images of child pornography with other individuals on the Internet.

"Most images today of child pornography depict actual sexual abuse of real children," Lockhart said. "Each image literally documents a crime scene, and we will make every effort to prosecute not only those committing the crime shown in the images, but also those who commit the crime of possessing, receiving or distributing such images."

"Child pornography is the permanent record of the sexual exploitation of a child and the victimization continues every time that image is transmitted, downloaded, shared, or viewed," said Moskowitz. "ICE agents take special pride in their role of seeking justice on behalf of those who have been exploited and victimized."

The maximum statutory penalty for possession of child pornography is ten years imprisonment, a fine of up to \$250,000, and up to 3 years supervised release. Judge Rose will determine the actual sentence based on a number of factors, including the advisory federal sentencing guidelines. Toberen will also be required to register as a sex offender. Judge Rose will set a date for sentencing.

Lockhart commended the investigation by ICE agents and Assistant U.S. Attorney Laura Clemmens, who is prosecuting the case.

# # #